



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T-09-99
May 4, 1999
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Ron Baker
(916) 324-3142
Frank S. Simpson
(510) 540-3732

Performance Verification Completed for Rayovac's Renewal® Rechargeable Alkaline Batteries

SACRAMENTO -- The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program, today announced the release of a Verification Report and Statement entitled:

Rayovac Renewal® Rechargeable Alkaline Household Battery System (March 1999).

The household battery system is the first environmental technology verified by the EPA in partnership with DTSC. The verification was based on a DTSC certification. DTSC's certification program is designed to assist regulatory acceptance and marketing for innovative environmental technologies that provide an environmental benefit. The verification by EPA was conducted under EPA's Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program. The ETV Program is intended to assist and inform those individuals in need of credible data for the design, distribution, permitting, and purchase of commercially-ready environmental technologies.

More than 3.5 billion alkaline batteries are sold in the United States each year. Rayovac's Renewal® batteries are available in sizes AAA, AA, C, and D. The batteries were evaluated with respect to waste volumes, toxic metals, and costs. Compared with conventional alkaline batteries, the Renewal® batteries extend battery life, thus reducing the amount of waste batteries entering landfills.

The performance and chemical tests indicate Rayovac's Renewal® System can reduce battery waste without increasing overall toxicity. Furthermore, the Renewal® System costs less than an equivalent number of non-rechargeable alkalines, based on a usable life expectancy of 25 charges from size AAA. Costs vary depending on the type and number of batteries and chargers purchased.

Information on the ETV Program and this Report can be obtained from the following sources:

1. **US EPA / NSCEP**
P.O. Box 42419
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242-2419
Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/etv/library.htm> (*electronic copy*)
<http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom/> (*hard copy*)

--- M O R E ---

2. **Department of Toxic Substances Control**
Office of Pollution Prevention and Technology Development
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806
web site: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/sppt/opptd/etv/txppetvp.htm>
or <http://www.epa.gov/etv> (*click on partners*)

For information on Rayovac's Renewal® batteries, contact: Mr. John Daggett, Director of Corporate Communications and Marketing Services, Rayovac Corporation, (608) 275-4912

DTSC is one of six boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency. DTSC's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting reduction.

#